

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 OTPE-00 NSF-02 OIC-02

EB-07 L-02 HUD-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 FEAE-00 DODE-00 /059 R

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P 181942Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 253723

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: CST/CUG NOV. 19-20 STEERING GROUP MEETING FOR
CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER-TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICIES
AND NOV. 21 PANEL MEETING

REF: (A) SPT(74)9 (1ST REV) (B) STATE 33039 OF 19 FEB. 74
(C) USOECD 24243

1. SUMMARY. BASED ON CONCERNS OF STAFF OF DOMESTIC
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PRIVACY, RECOMMEND US REP TO STEERING
GROUP EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING SOME DISCUSSION
IN CONFERENCE ON APPROPRIATE ASPECTS OF IMPACT OF COMPUTER/
TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ON PERSONAL PRIVACY. CST
SHOULD REVIEW AND APPROVE ANY FURTHER ACTIVITY CONCERNING
ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMS FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION BY USE OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS. END SUMMARY.

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2. SESSION A OF CONFERENCE DEALS WITH SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF COMPUTER TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS. PLAN FOR THIS SESSION PREVIOUSLY CONTAINED POLICY ISSUE ON PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, REF DOC (A) PRIOR TO REVISION. THIS ISSUE SUBSEQUENTLY REPLACED BY OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS PERHAPS DUE IN PART TO US SUGGESTIONS, REF TEL (B) WHICH GAVE LOW PRIORITY TO ISSUE OF PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS BECAUSE THIS LARGELY NATIONAL PROBLEM.

3. HOWEVER, MORE RECENTLY, STAFF OF DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PRIVACY HAS EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THIS SESSION OMITTS DISCUSSION OF THOSE ASPECTS OF PERSONAL PRIVACY ISSUE WHICH ARE OF COMMON POLICY CONCERN IN A GROWING NUMBER OF OECD COUNTRIES AND WHICH ARE SUITABLE FOR DISCUSSING PERTINENT MEMBER COUNTRY EXPERIENCE IN SEEKING POLICY SOLUTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES; E.G. INDIVIDUAL RIGHT OF ACCESS OF RECORDED INFO. THEREFORE, REQUEST US REP EXPLORE INTEREST OF STEERING GROUP AND POSSIBLE MECHANISM FOR INTRODUCING SOME FOCUSED DISCUSSION ON SPECIFIC POLICY ISSUES AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES PERTAINING TO PRIVACY AND PUBLIC INFO PROBLEMS. STAFF OF DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PRIVACY IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE WORKING PAPER THIS AREA FOR CONSIDERATION AT CONFERENCE. ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE CIRCULATION OF US PAPER TO PARTICIPANTS AND BRINGING UP PRIVACY ISSUE FROM THE FLOOR AT APPROPRIATE TIME IN SESSION A. ALSO IMPORTANT THAT KEY-SPEAKER'S ADDRESS IN SESSION A GIVE ADEQUATE AND FOCUSED TREATMENT OF QUESTIONS OF PERSONAL PRIVACY AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO RECORDED INFO.

4. WITH REF TO NOV. 21 PANEL MEETING, REF TEL (C), IMPORTANT THAT PANEL BE ADVISED THAT COLLECTION OF INFO ON NATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION BY USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IS NOT IN CUG PROGRAM, AND FURTHERMORE THIS STUDY FALLS OUTSIDE OF APPROPRIATE ACTIVITY AREAS OF CUG AS US SEES IT. ALSO, THIS SURVEY HAS NOT BEEN CONSIDERED BY CST AD HOC GROUP ON R&D ASPECTS OF ENERGY PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH SUGGESTED SURVEY CAME FROM US, QUESTIONNAIRE WAS ISSUED UNDER SOLE AUTHORITY OF UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARIAT. THEREFORE, CST AND CUG (AS APPROPRIATE) SHOULD REVIEW AND APPROVE CURRENT EFFORT BEFORE ANY FURTHER SECRETARIAT RESOURCES DEVOTED TO THIS ACTIVITY. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, POLICIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, COMPUTERS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE253723
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PHEMILY:LER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740333-0060
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741134/aaaabcbgq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) SPT(74)9 (1ST REV) (B) STATE 330, 39 OF 19 FEB. 74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 OCT 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CST/CUG NOV. 19-20 STEERING GROUP MEETING FOR CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER-TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICIES
TAGS: TGEN, TPHY, OECD
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005